

Message Text

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73

ACTION PM-07

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FM AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2068

INFO AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON

DMA WASHDC

ARPA WASHDC

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UNCLAS CANBERRA 6431

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: TGEN,AS,NZ

SUBJ: SEISMIC RESEARCH OBSERVATORIES PROGRAM (SRO)

REF: A) STATE 211964 B) CANBERRA 4435 C) STATE 94467

1. EMBASSY HAS BEEN IN CONTACT OVER PAST THREE WEEKS WITH ECONOMIC POLICY BRANCH, DEPT. OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND INDIRECTLY WITH BUREAU OF MINERAL RESOURCES IN THE DEPT. OF MINERALS AND ENERGY OF THE GOVERNMENT OF AUSTRALIA WITH REGARD TO SUBJECT PROGRAM. EMBASSY HAS ALSO RECEIVED COPIES OF CORRESPONDENCE BETWEEN BMR AND ENVIRONMENTAL RESEARCH LABORATORIES OF NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION IN BOULDER COLORADO WHICH ARE BEING TRANSMITTED BY AIRPOUCH NOV. 28 FOR INFORMATION OF INTERESTED WASHINGTON AGENCIES.

2. FROM CONVERSATIONS IN CANBERRA, IT APPEARS THAT BMR IS VERY INTERESTED IN THE PROPOSED UPGRADING OF THE STANDARD SEISMO-GRAPH STATION AT MUNDARING, WESTERN AUSTRALIA.

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IN CORRESPONDENCE REFERRED TO ABOVE, INDICATION GIVEN THAT THE ENVIRONMENTAL RESEARCH LABORATORIES INTEND TO SEND A REPRESENTATIVE TO AUSTRALIA TO DISCUSS THE PROPOSED UPGRADING OF THIS STATION WITHIN THE NEXT MONTH OR TWO. WE GATHER ALSO THAT THE UPGRADING OF THIS STATION CANNOT TAKE PLACE FOR A YEAR OR SO BECAUSE THE EQUIPMENT INVOLVED WILL NOT HAVE BEEN MANUFACTURED FOR ANOTHER 10 MONTHS.

3. EMBASSY WOULD APPRECIATE KNOWING WHEN THE REPRESENTATIVE FROM THE ENVIRONMENTAL RESEARCH LABORATORIES IS EXPECTED TO VISIT AUSTRALIA. HE SHOULD BE PREPARED TO DISCUSS NOT ONLY THE SITING OF A NEW SEISMOLOGICAL INSTRUMENT IN WESTERN AUSTRALIA BUT ALSO A POSSIBLE SUGGESTION FROM THE AUSTRALIAN SIDE THAT THE PRESENT STATION AT MUNDARING MIGHT BE MOVED CLOSER TO THE SITE FOR THE NEW EQUIPMENT ONCE THAT HAS BEEN DETERMINED BY AN APPROPRIATE SURVEY.
GREEN

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